(c) Normal strength of a section in KVs is 35-40. The enrolment position in class IX and X in KV No. 1 and 2 Hindon as on 24th July, 2001 is as follows:—

			No. 1 Hindon	No. 2 Hindon
Class IX	A		60	45
	B		51	44
	C		61	43
		TOTAL:	172	132
Class X	A		38	35
	B		29	29
	C		29	29
		TOTAL:	96	93

(d) All students who fulfilled the required guidelines have been allowed local transfers.

Price fixation of fertilizers

†*198. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a suggestion had been given to Government for fixing prices of fertilizers by grouping chemical fertilizer producing units and assessing their production cost on group basis;

(b) if so, when such suggestion was given and who had given that suggestion; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have not made any announcement regarding implementation of the same?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (c) The Expenditure

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Reforms Commission (ERC), in its report entitled 'Rationalising Fertilizer Subsidies' submitted to the Government in September, 2000, has *inter-alia* recommended replacement of the existing Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme by a group-based Concession Scheme after dividing urea units into 5 groups based on feed-stock and vintage and prescribing uniform rates of concession for each group. Although the Finance Minister has, while presenting the Central Government's Budget for 2001-2002, made the announcement to the effect that the recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission for a phased programme of complete decontrol by April 1, 2006 would be implemented from April 1, 2001, the Government is examining the recommendations of ERC with a view to formulate a new pricing policy for urea units which will aim at bringing uniformity and transparency in payment of subsidy to urea manufacturers and also induce them to take cost reduction measures on their own and be competitive.

Use of unharmful pesticides

*199. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Research Department has considered that use of alternative and unharmful pesticides using neem seeds and other conventional seeds rather than chemicals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) *to* (c) The Government is promoting research on the use of alternative and unharmful pesticides using neem seeds. A country program entitled "Development and Production of Neem Products as Environment Friendly Pesticides" is being undertaken by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals with the financial assistance of United Nations Development Program (UNDP)/United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO). The same is being implemented with the objective to promote production, processing